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Some Figures of Imports.

Washington, June 16.—Frank H. Hitchcock, chief of the section of foreign markets of the agricultural department, has prepared a bulletin showing the sources of the agricultural imports of the United States for the period from 1896 to 1900. It shows that the total value of agricultural produce imported into the United States in 1900 was \$420,139,288, that year being the record year of the five. The annual average was \$376,369,368.

Europe was decidedly the most important source of agricultural imports, America taking from that country in 1900 \$129,000,000 worth of farm products, being the largest in recent years, except in 1897, when \$152,000,000 was received.

Asia in 1900 sent \$101,000,000 in agricultural produce, a rapid rise from \$66,000,000 in 1896. The farm produce imports from Oceania also rose rapidly, being \$31,000,000 in 1900, against \$22,000,000 in 1896, while, on the other hand, there was a falling off of \$2,000,000 in imports of farm products from North American countries, there being \$83,000,000 in 1900, against \$85,000,000 in 1895.

The imports, however, in the three years preceding 1900 were larger than this. There was a big falling off in agricultural imports from South America, being \$93,000,000 in 1896 and only \$64,000,000 in 1899 and \$66,000,000 in 1900. African farm produce imports declined from \$10,400,000 in 1896 to \$6,700,000 in 1898 and rose again in 1900 to \$10,600,000.

Brazil, owing to its heavy coffee trade, holds the foremost place in the ranks of countries sending coffee supplies, her total for 1900 being \$39,287,000.

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000. Imports from there, however, have been steadily decreasing. In 1896 they were \$60,668,000. The United Kingdom ranks next to Brazil with \$32,606,000 worth of farm products exported to the United States in 1900, a gain over the two immediately preceding years, but a loss of \$15,000,000 as compared with 1897.—Chicago Chronicle.

Plots in South America.

The recent statement in these columns that differences among the South American states were probably being fomented by European nations is in a fair way of being speedily verified. Since Venezuela became enraged at the United States over the Trinidad asphalt case her government has been flirting with Europe. A war vessel of a European country was recently discovered making soundings near the island of Trinidad. The government of Colombia, which is very friendly to the United States and with other American republics, impressed with the importance of maintaining the Monroe doctrine as the only salvation of the Latin-American republics, made some diplomatic protests to Venezuela and demanded an explanation. The reply was that the concessions were purely of a commercial nature, not involving the foreign government officially, but only some of its citizens. The answer was in no wise satisfactory to the Colombian government, which is making preparations to prevent even the alleged commercial concessions, though it be necessary to uphold its contention by force of arms. Colombian troops are being concentrated on the border, and,

considering the excitable character of the Venezuelans, a war is fairly in prospect. Interest is added to the situation by the fact that the commander of the Colombian army is an American and a graduate of West Point. He also holds a commission as a general in the armies of the other Central American states. In these disputes or possible wars between the Latin-American states is a reminder that a severe test to the efficacy of the Monroe doctrine is impending in the not distant future. In the meantime, let the work on our battleships progress with all possible speed.—Denver News.

Doubt.

"I suppose," said the admiring father to his daughter just before graduation day, "that there are very few branches of human learning in which you do not feel well informed." "Well," she confessed gently, "there is one subject on which I have some doubts. I don't quite know what to wear."—Washington Star.

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